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HOUSE RESOLUTION 222
By Kisber

A RESOLUTION to endorse the participation of the Republic of
China in the World Health Organization.

WHEREAS, good health is essential to every citizen of the world; and

WHEREAS, access to the highest standards of health information and services is
necessary to improve public health; and

WHEREAS, direct and unobstructed participation in international health forums and
programs is critical, especially with today's greater potential for the cross-border spread of
various infectious diseases, such as the human immunodeficiency virus (HIV), tuberculosis, and
malaria; and

WHEREAS, the World Health Organization (WHO) set forth, in the first chapter of its
charter, the objective of attaining the highest possible level of health for all people; and

WHEREAS, the Republic of China's achievements in the field of health are substantial
and include one of the highest life expectancy levels in Asia; maternal and infant mortality rates
comparable to those of western countries; the eradication of such infectious diseases as

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cholera, smallpox, and the plague; and being the first nation to eradicate polio and to provide children with hepatitis B vaccinations; and

WHEREAS, the United States Center for Disease Control and Prevention and its Taiwanese counterpart have enjoyed close collaboration on a wide range of public health issues; and

WHEREAS, in recent years the Republic of China has expressed a willingness to assist, both financially and technically, in international aid and health activities supported by the WHO; and

WHEREAS, the Republic of China's population of 23 million is larger than that of 75% of the WHO member states; and

WHEREAS, the World Health Assembly has previously allowed observers to participate in the activities of the organization, including the Palestine Liberation Organization in 1974, the Order of Malta, and the Holy See in the early 1950s; and

WHEREAS, the United States, in the 1994 Taiwan Policy Review, declared its intention to support Taiwan's participation in appropriate international organizations; and

WHEREAS, the State of Tennessee and Taiwan have maintained a friendly and fruitful sister-state relationship since 1980; and

WHEREAS, Taiwan's participation in the WHO could bring numerous benefits to the state of public health not only in Taiwan, but also regionally and globally; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED SECOND GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, That this Body hereby supports the efforts of the Republic of China, to achieve appropriate and meaningful participation in the World Health Organization.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.

